



# NEWS RELEASE

## Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland

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**Date: June 25, 2009**

**Contact   Melissa Martin**  
**307-745-2371**

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### **Firework and Campground Information on the Medicine Bow National Forest**

(Laramie, Wyo. June 25, 2009) – The Forest Service is reminding people to leave their fireworks at home if they are visiting the Medicine Bow National Forest this July 4 holiday. Fireworks are never allowed on national forests. Fireworks reach extreme temperatures and can start forest fires.

People are also reminded to be responsible with their campfires and to watch out for falling trees. “We have a dead, brown canopy of lodgepole pine in many areas of the forest due to a landscape-scale bark beetle epidemic” said Fire Management Officer Tony Tezak. “Dead trees can fall without warning, endangering people and blocking roads. The dead, dry canopy is also ripe for large, fast-moving fires. Any fires in these canopies, along with a little wind, could create extremely hazardous conditions,” Tezak said. Although there are no fire restrictions at this time, we cannot stress enough how careful people must be with campfires in the forest.

People visiting the National Forest will also find that some campgrounds are still closed due the removal of beetle-killed trees and snow conditions. The following campgrounds on the Laramie Ranger District will be closed for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend: Brooklyn Lake and Sugarloaf. Closed campgrounds on the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District include: Deep Creek, Hog Park (formerly Lake View), and Silver Lake. For the most current campground information, including amenities provided, please contact the Laramie Ranger District at 307-745-2300 or the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District at 307-326-5258.

All of the campgrounds on the Douglas Ranger District, including the Thunder Basin National Grassland, are open for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. All roads are also clear of snow, including La Bonte Canyon Road on the Laramie Peak Unit. For more information, please contact the Douglas Ranger District at 307-358-4690.

***Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, Thunder Basin National Grassland***  
***2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, Wyoming 82070***  
***<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr>***

Remember National Forests and Grasslands are public lands owned by all citizens, so please take care of your National Forest. For more information about recreation on your national forests, please visit [www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr).

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